



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

July 19, 2005

The Honorable Michael Chertoff  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
United States Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Mr. Secretary,

The Department of Homeland Security has identified California as one of the highest threat areas in the country. We have numerous urban areas; several ports that accept international cargo daily; thousands of miles of mass transit, rail and highways; and internationally identified critical infrastructure like the Golden Gate Bridge. California also shares a heavily traveled border with Mexico, which increases our vulnerability as a potential entrance point for terrorists.

In addition, a recent report by the Associated Press found that Mexican border crossings were "some of the pipelines in Latin America and Canada that have illegally channeled thousands of people into the United States from so-called special interest countries...."

Such reports underscore the need to ensure effective enforcement of our country's immigration laws. Last year, Congress passed legislation authorizing your Department to hire and train an additional 2,100 border patrol agents. Congress has taken action this year to appropriate the funds necessary for the Department to have these new patrols on the border in Fiscal Year 2006. Given the Congressional commitment to border security, I am asking that you allocate a significant portion of these additional border resources to California's border with Mexico. It is important for the federal government to take all possible steps to secure our border. Mexico is one of California's most important trading partners. A secure, orderly border enhances this strong economic relationship and smoothes the flow of people and goods along our mutual border. Placing additional border patrol agents in California is an important step in meeting these goals.

The Honorable Michael Chertoff

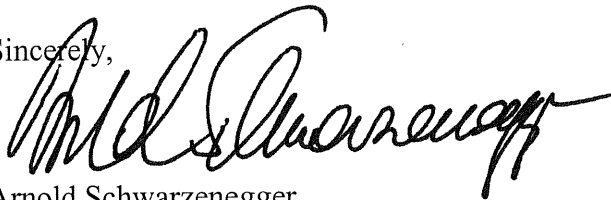
July 19, 2005

Page two

We are all aware of the citizens who have begun patrolling the border on their own to bring attention to the border security issue. While I share their frustration, I believe the ultimate solution lies with the federal government deploying an adequate number of border patrol agents to ensure a safe, effective and responsible border security operation.

Thank you for your immediate consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold Schwarzenegger", written in a cursive, stylized script.

Arnold Schwarzenegger